Ohio previously had a 15-year statute on written contracts until 2012. He pointed to similar steps taken by Kentucky and other states, saying they risk putting Ohio at a competitive disadvantage.

"A significant, tangible cost savings will result for business by removing the necessity to retain eight years of documents, "Rep. Lang said. "More and more, document retention is becoming a cost driver for business. Limiting the need to only three years, will remove a key burden on businesses."

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Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Tom Gallick, Staff Writers

Click the fafter a bill number to create a saved search and email alert for that bill.

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From: report@hannah.com

Sent: Wednesday, June 27, 2018 10:49 PM

To: DL Hannah

Subject: Hannah News Stories for Wednesday, June 27, 2018

Wednesday, June 27, 2018

IN TODAY'S HANNAH REPORT:

Please click here to read the entire Hannah Report.

Today's Stories

- Senate Releases Calendar for Second Half of 2018
- House OKs Religious Rights Bills, Child Marriage Ban, Rules on Explicit Images
- Senate Passes Government Regulations Reduction, Community School Legislation

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- Dems Thwarted in Effort to Report Out Payday Lending Bill
- Senate Panel Seeks to Clarify E-School 'Safe Harbor' Provisions
- Energy Standards Bill Still Not Ready to Move, Lawmakers Say
- Portman, Brown Tout Defense Investment, Push Lake Erie Clean-Up
- SCOTUS Rules against Public-Sector Labor Unions
- Reactions Roll In to SCOTUS Decision in Janus v. AFSCME 31
- U.S. Supreme Court Justice Kennedy to Retire
- Judicial Actions: Opinions; Appeals Accepted
- Executive Actions: Appointments

House Committee Reports

- Agriculture and Rural Development
- Armed Services, Veterans Affairs and Homeland Security
- Civil Justice
- Government Accountability and Oversight
- Health
- <u>Insurance</u>

Senate Committee Reports

- Education
- Energy and Natural Resources
- Finance
- Government Oversight and Reform
- Rules and Reference Committee
- Transportation, Commerce and Workforce

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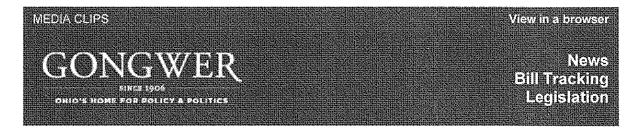
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From: Gongwer News Service

Sent: Monday, July 2, 2018 8:39 AM

To: DL Gongwer

Subject: Ohio Media Clips, Monday, July 2



NEWS

Auditor's report shows opioids impact on Medicaid (Associated Press, 7/2/2018)

Ohio Lawmakers Approve Lake Erie Algae Prevention Bill (Associated Press, 7/2/2018)

Biden in Cincy: Trump's ideology is 'aggrandizing power' (Cincinnati Enquirer, 7/2/2018)

Complaint: Security should not stop black, female lawmaker (Cincinnati Enquirer, 7/2/2018)

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EDITORIALS

Beacon Journal/Ohio.com editorial board Repair online charter schools? Statehouse Republicans aren't there yet (Akron Beacon Journal, 7/2/2018)

Ohio lawmakers pass questionable legislation in 'bill-a-thon' session: Thomas Suddes (Cleveland Plain Dealer, 7/2/2018)

Editorial: Senate payday delay hurts consumers but helps lobbyists (Columbus Dispatch, 7/2/2018)

Sherrod Brown steps up (Toledo Blade, 7/2/2018)

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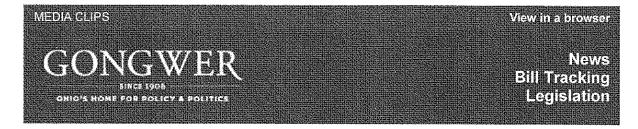
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Young, Brad; Snider, Grace; Garczyk, Cameron; Sarko, Alyssa

Subject: Smith Clips for 7/5/2018

SMITH CLIPS



LAWMAKERS UNCERTAIN ABOUT THE FUTURE OF RIGHT TO WORK BILLS IN POST-JANUS OHIO

As the dust was still settling on the last voting session day for the Ohio House of Representatives and Senate, leaders of both chambers fielded questions about another major piece of news occurring while they were busy passing legislation; the Janus v. AFSCME decision made by the Supreme Court of the United States (SCOTUS).



SMITH APPLAUDS BILL PASSAGE PROTECTING PASTORS, CLEAN LAKE PLAN

Speaker of the Ohio House Ryan Smith (R-Bidwell) has applauded the passage of Senate_Bill 299, or the "Clean Lake 2020 Plan," and House Bill 36, or the "Ohio Pastor Protection Act," by the Ohio House of Representatives.

Libby Henson

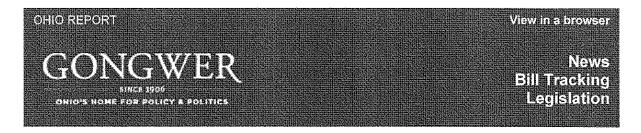
Special Assistant to the Speaker for Correspondence Office of Speaker Ryan Smith | Ohio House of Representatives (614) 728-5448 From: Gongwer News Service

Sent: Thursday, July 5, 2018 5:55 PM

To: DL Gongwer

Subject: Ohio Report, Thursday, July 5, 2018

Attachments: Jul5.htm; Jul5Senate.htm; 180705dayplan.htm



OHIO REPORT THURSDAY, JULY 5

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Kidney Dialysis, Drug Penalties Amendment Campaigns Submit Petitions To Qualify For November Ballot

Siting Board Staff Issues Recommended Safety, Environmental Conditions For Proposed Off-Shore Turbines

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O'Connor's Latest Ad Features Kasich Voter; Becker Blasts U.S. Supreme Court; LPO Seeks Minor Party Status...

OEC Urges Steps To Tackle Algal Blooms; Portman, Brown Push Back On Dredging Annual Short-Term Technical Certificates Top 13K; Facilities Construction Commission To Host Tech Webinar; Work Begins on OSU's Franklin County Extension Office

Supplemental Agency Calendar

ACTIVITY REPORTS

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CALENDARS

Day Planner

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Volume #87, Report #129 -- Thursday, July 5, 2018 Amendments Temper Superintendents' Victories In Education Overhaul Bill

Late additions to a measure set to make dozens of changes to the state's K-12 education system made its passage somewhat bittersweet for the school administrators who helped lead the push for the legislation.

The lower chamber last week passed the measure (SB 216) 60-32 after it gained more than a dozen amendments in committee hearings and on the House floor. The Senate concurred in the House's changes by a vote of 28-1. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 27, 2018)

While a group of e-school reforms tacked onto the bill rankled House Democrats into opposing the measure, a number of less-debated changes displeased the school administrators who initially helped to shape the bill.

Chris Pfister, superintendent of the Waynesfield-Goshen Local School District, said he counts a floor amendment by Rep. Jeff Rezabek (R-Clayton) among the negative last-minute changes to the bill. The amendment, which was accepted by a vote of 62-28, strips language that would have prevented excused absences from being included in the state's calculation for what makes a student "excessively absent."

Under existing law, a student is "excessively absent" when he or she misses 38 or more hours in a month or 65 or more hours in a year, whether the absences are excused or not. When a student reaches either of those thresholds, the district must send a notification to the student's parents.

Mr. Pfister, who formed a steering committee of superintendents on the legislation at the request of sponsor Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima), said the existing law does not allow school officials to use their discretion. He said local school districts should not be penalized for absences by students who are seriously ill or keeping up with their work while dealing with difficult or unusual family situations.

"All we (requested was), just don't count valid reasons against kids, parents and school districts," he said, adding that 50% of his district's students who are considered excessively absent are on the honor roll.

Rep. Rezabek, in describing the amendment last week on the House floor, said the existing provision of state law is simply about notifying parents about their students' absences and collecting related data from school districts.

"We're trying to catch students who, whether you're excused or unexcused, you're not there," he said. "You're missing the time to learn."

Rep. Rezabek said a number of school districts attempted to "aggravate parents and rally the public" against the provision of a measure (HB410), which he sponsored in the T31st General Assembly. He said districts wrote unnecessarily "nasty letters" to parents of students who met the excessively absent threshold in the hopes of swaying the popular opinion of the law.

Rep. Rezabek said in an interview Thursday that if the change had gone through, "bad actors" among school districts simply could have excused any absence that would have led to additional intervention on the district's part. He said a small number of districts have been "purposefully creating (their) own controversy" about the letters to make the entirety of the law look bad.

"We just want to make sure the parents are notified," he said of the letters, adding that he "absolutely" would be open to improvements to the measure suggested by school districts.

Gov. John Kasich earlier this week appointed Rep. Rezabek as a juvenile court judge in Montgomery County. He is expected to resign effective July 11. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 2, 2018)

Among several amendments adopted in the House Education and Career Readiness Committee was one that stripped another suggestion by local school officials from SB 216.

The version of the legislation adopted by the Senate would have required students not receiving free or reduced price lunches to pay for half of their textbook costs for College Credit Plus courses they take at community colleges. By the time the measure passed the House last week, an amendment offered by Rep. Dan Ramos (D-Lorain) had removed that language from the bill.

Mr. Pfister said local school officials pushed for the change because students currently have no incentive to buy used or discounted textbooks, as local school districts are required to pick up costs related to the program.

"They can walk into the bookstore and buy a \$300 book and they don't care because it costs them absolutely nothing," he said.

Although he said many districts officials thought it was fair for students to have some skin in the game, Mr. Pfister said he also understood lawmakers' concerns that adding a cost for students to the program could prevent them from participating.

"We value College Credit Plus," he said. "I want as many of my students to get as many credits as they can."

A provision of the law allowing students to administer third-grade state achievement tests on paper instead of online counts as a win for local school administrators, Mr. Pfister said.

The superintendent said testing third-grade students on computers can be "developmentally inappropriate" and can lead to students being held back because they have not yet mastered computer skills.

"Do we want to test reading and writing or the manipulation of this technology?" he said.

Mr. Pfister said he would have liked to have seen the legislature go further in reducing restrictions that prevent districts from using teachers outside of their licensed grade bands. He said such restrictions can keep districts from putting "the best person in front of kids," but efforts to loosen them were watered down as the legislation moved forward.

Although he expressed disappointment with several changes to the bill during the legislative process, Mr. Pfister said he does view the measure as a good initial step on multiple fronts.

"Overall, everything that's in there is helpful," he said.

Kidney Dialysis, Drug Penalties Amendment Campaigns Submit Petitions To Qualify For November Ballot

A pair of campaigns backing constitutional amendments submitted petitions this week to qualify for the November ballot, with one reporting more than twice as many signatures as required.

Supporters of the Neighborhood Safety, Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation amendment reported submitting 730,031, according to the secretary of state's office. They need 305,591 of those signatures to be certified as valid in order to make the ballot.

Proponents of the other ballot-issue, the Kidney Dialysis Patient Protection Amendment, submitted 472,308 signatures, according to the secretary of state's office.

County boards of elections will determine how many of the signatures are valid by July 19, and the secretary of state's office has until July 24 to certify whether the proposals qualify for the ballot, according to the state.

Backers of the kidney dialysis issue, which is being supported by the SEIU, said the effort is designed to improve patient care at dialysis clinics. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 3, 2018)

"When talking with Ohio voters, they shared so many stories of loved ones with kidney failure being overlooked by the healthcare system," Dr. Ean Bett, a physician who supports the initiative, said in a statement. "The goal of this initiative is to protect those

patients - not the profits of dialysis corporations - and that's why voters were so enthusiastic about getting this on the November ballot."

The Ohio Renal Association, meanwhile, blasted the proposal as "deceptive and unnecessary."

"This ballot issue leaves me dumbfounded and incredulous," nephrologist Dr. Chris Saunders said in a statement, "The sponsors of this amendment demonstrated an obvious lack of understanding of the needs of dialysis patients and the comprehensive set of medical protocols and regulations that already govern the delivery of dialysis in Ohio."

An estimated 18,000 Ohioans suffering from end-stage renal disease receive dialysis treatments in clinics three times a week, with each visiting taking three to four hours, the Renal Association said in a release.

The association said nine out of ten patients receive coverage from Medicare, Medicaid or other government programs. They said the proposal would require dialysis providers to issue rebates to private insurers if their revenue exceeds certain limits, but it does not require those insurers to pass savings on to patients.

"This out-of-state special interest group is proposing a constitutional amendment to lock in place an unnecessary and flawed set of regulations that will actually harm the very patients the paid petitioners say they want to protect," nephrologist Dr. Henry Wehrum said.

The "Neighborhood Safety, Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation" amendment would make significant changes to how many drug crimes are handled in the state. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 2, 2018)

It would require all fourth- and fifth-degree felony offenses for obtaining, possessing or using drugs or drug paraphernalia to be reclassified as no higher than first-degree misdemeanors.

The issue is expected to face opposition from the state's judges, with the executive director of the Ohio Judicial Conference saying the issue is one that should be handled in legislation, not in the constitution.

Siting Board Staff Issues Recommended Safety, Environmental Conditions For Proposed Off-Shore Turbines

Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board has submitted their recommendations for a slew of conditions they believe should be placed on a proposed off-shore wind farm in Lake Erie.

The 59-page report finalized this week follows months of investigation into the proposed Project Icebreaker - a 20 megawatt, six-turbine windfarm eyed for 10 miles off Cleveland's coast. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 28, 2018)

The report generally recommends state regulators agree with staff that the Lake Erie Energy Development Corp. has demonstrated adequate need for the project and met other steps required before final board approval.

In doing so, the report suggests 34 conditions be placed upon the project. The conditions themselves vary by subject area, encompassing topics including: ecology; safety; aviation; and air, water and solid waste. (Docket)

Among proposed safety requirements are that LEEDCo: complies with turbine manufacturers' most recent safety recommendations; obtains all relevant construction and transportation permits; enters into a road use agreement with appropriate parties prior to construction and subject to staff review; and mitigate any observed impacts to communication systems including maritime radio within seven days.

The stipulations also address potential impacts on bats and other aviatory wildlife - a point of contention between project backers and wildlife groups who have previously sued in an effort to halt the project. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, November 9, 2017)

The conditions would call for the project to stick to an avian and bat memorandum of understanding and require LEEDCo to submit both a fisheries and aquatic resources construction monitoring plan and an avian and bat impact mitigation plan at least 60 days prior to construction.

LEEDCo would be required to contact the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, staff and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service within 24 hours should it encounter a state or federally endangered species during construction or operation of the turbines. And staff is also seeking to require the corporation adopt a radar monitoring program to continually assess aviation activity.

A public hearing on the project is scheduled for July 19 in Cleveland even as written public comment from stakeholder groups and private citizens continues pouring in to the board on both sides of the issue.

Most recently, the Environmental Defense Fund urged support for the project, noting that LEEDCo had initially planned for project approval by February 2017. Since then, backers have submitted "an overwhelming amount of documentation to support is application" which EDF argues "easily meets or exceeds" the board's approval criteria.

"These projects will play a key role in reducing U.S. greenhouse gas emissions," EDF Midwest Policy Director Dick Munson wrote. "These projects take on greater importance now that the federal government may be about to misuse the Defense Production Act to provide illegal, uneconomic subsidies for old coal and gas plants."

He was referring to ongoing debate among the Trump Administration, which is considering using the law to offer new emergency financial supports to unprofitable plants. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 1, 2018)

Democrats Argue DeWine's ECOT Action 'Too Little, Too Late'

While Attorney General Mike DeWine contends jurisdictional and procedural hurdles have kept him from playing a leading role in the drama surrounding the now-shuttered Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow, Democratic critics Thursday claimed he could have found a way to get involved earlier.

The criticisms followed a Tuesday court filing from the AG's office, which reiterated its interest in prosecuting financial claims ECOT has against third parties, including school founder Bill Lager. The state could recover public money by pursuing civil claims of breach of fiduciary duty and violation of the state's Corrupt Practices Act and its prohibition on public officials having interests in public contracts against Mr. Lager, according to the filing. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 3, 2018)

Tax records show ECOT, which closed its doors in January, transferred at least \$200 million to two other firms controlled by Mr. Lager, Altair Learning Management and IQ Innovations, according to the AG's filing.

Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper in a conference call Thursday said the Republican gubernatorial candidate's move to pursue claims against Mr. Lager is "too little, too late."

"Mike DeWine should have acted ... long before ECOT became a clear political liability," he said.

Dan Tierney, spokesman for the attorney general, said the office's response to the ECOT matter has been shaped by jurisdictional and procedural constraints.

"Under Ohio law, the attorney general does not have original jurisdiction in most criminal matters," he said, citing election fraud, workers' compensation fraud and certain organized crime cases involving drug and human trafficking among the areas in which the office does have jurisdiction.

County prosecutor's offices, he said, retain jurisdiction in the "vast majority" of criminal cases.

Earlier this year, State Auditor Dave Yost referred his office's audit of ECOT for potential criminal prosecution to the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office after determining school officials submitted inaccurate data to the Department of Education. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 10, 2018)

Mr. Pepper said he thinks the jurisdictional concerns are "just an excuse." He said the attorney general's filing from earlier in the week "shows the entire state he could have gotten involved years ago."

"That particular set of facts has been painfully clear for years," he said of the ties among companies controlled by Mr. Lager.

Mr. Tierney said it's important to note the legal effort under discussion, which ECOT sponsor the Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West launched to get the court to appoint a receiver to manage and wind down operations at the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow, began in January. The AG's office wants to pursue financial claims the shuttered school has against third parties in order to recoup taxpayer money without enlisting an outside firm that would take its own cut, he said.

"Part of the issue here is we have strong claims now that ECOT has closed that would not have been ripe prior to ECOT's closure," he said.

Mr. Tierney added AG DeWine is still waiting on approval from a Franklin County Common Pleas Court judge to move forward with potential collection actions.

"We're trying to start these proceedings as soon as we can," he said.

Rep. Tavia Galonski (D-Akron), who joined Mr. Pepper on the conference call, said she questions whether the AG could have used his authority to investigate the misuse of public funds to play a larger role in the matter. She added that she and Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo) in May requested the appointment of a special prosecutor to investigate ECOT after the audit's release.

Mr. Tierney said the AG's office does not have the authority to appoint a special prosecutor in the case without a request from the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office, which has original jurisdiction.

High Court Accepts Jurisdiction In Open Meetings Act Case

The Ohio Supreme Court has agreed to take up a case that could determine if public bodies violate the Open Meetings Act by utilizing secret ballots.

The court has accepted the appeal of Patricia Meade, who alleged the Village of Bratenahl violated the law in 2015 when its council utilized a secret ballot to elect a president pro tempore.

The election required three rounds of voting, and the ballots were reviewed only by the village's law director, according to Ms. Meade, who is the publisher of a community news publication. (Docket)

In her memorandum in support of jurisdiction, Ms. Meade cites an advisory opinion from the attorney general's office and a 2016 Ohio Supreme Court ruling in which it found a

private and prearranged discussion of public business by a majority of a public body through email violates the state's open meeting laws. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 3, 2016)

"The OMA expressly declares that it is to be liberally construed in openness so as to require public officials to take official action and conduct all deliberations upon official business only in open meetings. In so doing, this court must conclude and declare that secret-ballot voting violates the OMA," she wrote.

Both the trial court and the Eight District Court of Appeals sided with the village in the case.

Ms. Meade said the appellate court ruling "created a standard that does not advance the purposes and goals of the OMA, but directly undermines them."

The Ohio Coalition for Open Government struck a similar tone in its amicus brief supporting jurisdiction in the case.

"If permitted to stand, the decision below will allow local governments to effectively operate in secret, impairing the public's ability to hold their representatives accountable," the group wrote. "Public knowledge of government operations is vital to the legitimacy of local governments in Ohio."

The village, however, said there is no statute or case law that spells out how a vote for president pro tempore should be conducted.

"In fact, (the law) authorizes a legislative authority of a municipal corporation to determine its own rules and in this matter, village council followed its own past practice of using a contemporaneous vote by ballot to elect president pro tempore to a one-year term," the village wrote in opposing jurisdiction in the case.

The village also contends that the secret ballots were not designed to hide public business.

"Contrary to appellant's argument, the purpose of the handwritten ballot was not (to) conceal, but rather, to vote contemporaneously," it wrote. "A contemporaneous vote by handwritten ballot assures comradeship and precludes the potential public pressure resulting from hearing the other councilmember's votes."

O'Connor's Latest Ad Features Kasich Voter; Becker Blasts U.S. Supreme Court; LPO Seeks Minor Party Status...

Democrat Danny O'Connor's latest ad in his congressional bid seeks to bolster his standing with Republican voters who still back Gov. John Kasich.

In the ad, "Shannon," a Delaware woman lays out her rationale for voting for the Franklin County recorder.

"I voted for John Kasich the last three times. I voted for Trump because I didn't like the way things were going in Washington, and now I'm supporting Danny O'Connor," Shannon Ward says in the spot. "John Kasich and Danny O'Connor both don't worry about the labels of Democrat or Republican; they're going to get things done either way."

Janus Decision: Rep. John Becker (R-Union Twp.), a proponent of right-to-work laws, praised the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in *Janus* in which it found that non-union workers cannot be forced to pay fees to public sector unions.

However, he also blasted the court for legislating from the bench.

"The good news is that we now have public sector right-to-work across the United States. The bad news is that the little kings in black robes continue to overstep their constitutional authority by forcing their opinions down the throats of the rest of us," he said in a statement.

"The U.S. Constitution does not give the Supreme Court of the United States the authority to rule over the entire nation. Rather, they are only superior to the lower courts. Nor does the U.S. Constitution grant the Supreme Court veto power over legislation, also known as judicial review. These are powers that the justices of the court have granted to themselves."

Minor Party: The Libertarian Party of Ohio is seeking to regain its minor party status.

The group recently submitted 102,762 signatures to Secretary of State Jon Husted to do just that. A total of 54,964 valid petition signatures are needed to achieve the designation.

The party plans to announce a slate of 2018 candidates on July 14.

GM Investment: Mahoning Valley lawmakers are urging General Motors to reinvest in the area.

The call comes after the company announced that it would lay off second shift employees at its Lordstown plant.

In a letter to CEO Mary Barra, the lawmakers urge her to reconsider the decision.

"The Valley wants to continue to support GM. As this great American company evolves to meet the demands of the future, the workers at Lordstown want to evolve with the company they have devoted themselves to," they wrote. "There is a will to double down and train the current workforce for the jobs of tomorrow. Our workers and our communities want to continue to be a partner in a mutually beneficial relationship with GM."

The letter was signed by Rep. Job Boccieri (D-Alliance), Rep. Glenn Holmes (D-McDonald), Rep. Michele Lepore-Hagan (D-Youngstown), Rep. Michael O'Brien (D-Warren), Sen. Joe Schiavoni (D-Boardman) and Sen. Sean O'Brien (D-Bazetta).

Immigration Rally: More than 400 people rallied Thursday at the Statehouse to protest President Donald Trump's policy of separating parents from children at the border.

Community Development for All People, the Ohio Hispanic Coalition and the Children's Defense Fund Ohio sponsored the event.

OEC Urges Steps To Tackle Algal Blooms; Portman, Brown Push Back On Dredging

The Ohio Environmental Council is continuing to press for state-level action as algal blooms continue to grow in several parts of Lake Erie.

At the same time, Ohio's senators are pressing for protections against toxic dredging in the lake in a pending federal funding bill.

The debate over how to best tackle runoff fueling those blooms continues as lawmakers and Gov. John Kasich each mull respective legislative or executive action. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 2, 2018)

OEC Water Resources Director Peter Bucher said in a statement that recent high temperatures create the "perfect scenario for harmful algal blooms to occur earlier than normal."

"These blooms have already caused water advisories for beaches in northeastern Ohio and will likely disrupt recreation and tourism going forward over the summer," Mr. Bucher said.

"This problem isn't getting better and it won't simply go away," he said. "Wastewater treatment plants across Ohio need to be updated, and comprehensive nutrient management plans should be required in order to reduce agricultural runoff, or these blooms will remain an annual occurrence, and potentially worsen over time."

Dredging: U.S. Sen. Rob Portman (R-Terrace Park) and U.S. Sen. Sherrod Brown (D-Cleveland) secured their proposal to shield Lake Erie from dredging activity in a funding bill headed for the House.

The language is included in the Energy and Water Appropriations Act and would prohibit the Army Corps of Engineers from dumping toxic dredged material from the Cuyahoga River into the lake without the state's approval.

The provision, however, must clear hurdles in the House where representatives are tasked with reconciling their proposals with those of the Senate.

"The Cleveland Harbor project is vital to all of Ohio and we must ensure that the dredged material is not inappropriately disposed of by dumping it in Lake Erie without approval by the Ohio EPA," Sen. Portman said. "I will continue (to) use every tool available to make sure both the City of Cleveland's water supply and Lake Erie's ecosystem is protected."

Added Sen. Brown: "Lake Erie is a source of pride for Ohio - it's important for local businesses, local jobs, and the local ecosystem. This language will help us keep Lake Erie clean, keep the channel open for business, and ensure the Lake remains a viable resource for generations to come."

Annual Short-Term Technical Certificates Top 13K; Facilities Construction Commission To Host Tech Webinar; Work Begins on OSU's Franklin County Extension Office

The Department of Higher Education announced 13,403 students earned short-term technical certificates from postsecondary education entities in the state in fiscal year 2017.

The state's community colleges and universities awarded 6,307 of the certificates during the year, while technical centers awarded the remaining 7,096, according to data from the ODHE.

Students earn the credentials by completing study programs of less than 30 credit hours or 900 clock hours in preparation for licensure and careers in fields such as nursing, firefighting and welding.

Tech: The Facilities Construction Commission will conduct a webinar for school administrators involved in building or renovation projects next week.

The presentation, which is titled "Everything You Need to Know About Tech in 30 Minutes," is set for 10-11 a.m. July 11.

Topics set for discussion during the presentation include augmented and virtual reality, flat panels and projectors and strategies for coordinating maintenance and security ahead of a building's opening day.

Prospective participants can register for the webinar online.

The commission also is currently accepting applications for the second round of its Lead Plumbing Fixture Replacement Assistance Grant Program.

Officials at schools built before 1990 can apply for up to \$15,000 through the program to replace drinking fountains, piping and other fixtures. Schools must seek funding through the program by the July 31 application deadline.

More information about the program can be found on the commission's website.

Extension: Ohio State University has broken ground on a 10,500-square-foot facility on the site of its Waterman Agricultural and Natural Resources Laboratory.

Kunz-Brundige Franklin County Extension Office - the first of three new buildings planned on the site - is being funded through an \$11 million donation from Patricia Brundige that also supports two Franklin County 4H educator positions.

"We envision the Kunz-Brundige Franklin County Extension Office as a hub for teaching. research and community engagement around food, health, agricultural production and sustainability," Cathann Kress, OSU's vice president for agricultural administration, said in a statement. "Thanks to the generosity of Pat Brundige, a longtime volunteer and advocate for OSU Extension, this facility will increase our engagement with the Franklin County community through educational programs and events for youth and adults,"

OSU's Franklin County extension currently offers educational programs to thousands of children and adults every year, according to a news release from OSU.

E-schools: An online charter school advocacy group has requested Gov. John Kasich sign legislation containing conditional protections for schools that took in students from the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow after it closed in January.

The Ohio eSchool Families and Friends Coalition on Thursday released a letter written by its president, Sara Donlon, urging the governor to refrain from vetoing the measure (SB 216), which the House passed last week.

"There's important language protecting public charter schools from being put at risk of closure, unfairly, simply for doing the right thing and accepting any and all ECOT students who needed a safe harbor," she wrote. "As you know, ECOT closed on a Friday and those families needed a place to go to ensure that their children's education was not interrupted. Our schools took them in under trying circumstances."

An amendment to the measure, which makes dozens of changes to the state's K-12 education system, creates a safe harbor from certain consequences, including closure. for schools that saw their enrollment grow by 10% from taking in ECOT students. The Senate later adopted amendments to another piece of legislation (HB 87) that bumped up the threshold to 20% and clarified that schools already set for closure without taking data from former ECOT students into account would not be protected by the safe harbor.

Supplemental Agency Calendar Wednesday, July 18

Statewide Independent Living Council, Embassy Suites Columbus Airport, 2886 Airport Dr., Columbus, 10 a.m. (Committee meetings)

Thursday, July 19

Statewide Independent Living Council, Embassy Suites Columbus Airport, 2886 Airport Dr., Columbus, 1 p.m.

17 S. High St., Suite 630

Columbus Ohio 43215

Phone: 614-221-1992 | Fax: 614-221-7844 | Email: gongwer@gongwer-oh.com

Scott Miller, President | Kent Cahlander, Editor | Mike Livingston, Dustin Ensinger, Jon Reed, Tom Gallick, Staff Writers

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Senate Activity for Thursday, July 5, 2018

SB 315 🌉

POLICE REPORTS (Yuko, K.) To prohibit law enforcement agencies from including identifying information of sexual assault victims in police reports posted online. Am. 149.436

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Daily Activity Planner for Friday, July 6 Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

No agency meetings scheduled.

Event Planner

No events scheduled.

17 S. High St., Suite 630 Columbus Ohio 43215

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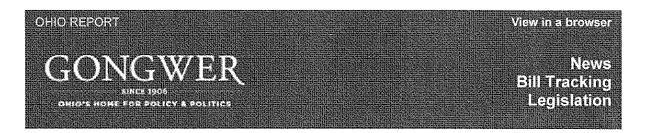
From: Gongwer News Service

Sent: Thursday, July 5, 2018 5:55 PM

To: DL_Gongwer

Subject: Ohio Report, Thursday, July 5, 2018

Attachments: Jul5 htm: Jul5 Senate htm; 180705dayplan.htm



OHIO REPORT THURSDAY, JULY 5

Amendments Temper Superintendents' Victories In Education Overhaul
Bill

Kidney Dialysis, Drug Penalties Amendment Campaigns Submit Petitions To Qualify For November Ballot

Siting Board Staff Issues Recommended Safety, Environmental Conditions For Proposed Off-Shore Turbines

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Supplemental Agency Calendar

ACTIVITY REPORTS

Senate

CALENDARS

Day Planner

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Date State

Volume #87, Report #129 -- Thursday, July 5, 2018 Amendments Temper Superintendents' Victories In Education Overhaul Bill

Late additions to a measure set to make dozens of changes to the state's K-12 education system made its passage somewhat bittersweet for the school administrators who helped lead the push for the legislation.

The lower chamber last week passed the measure (SB 216) 60-32 after it gained more than a dozen amendments in committee hearings and on the House floor. The Senate concurred in the House's changes by a vote of 28-1. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 27, 2018)

While a group of e-school reforms tacked onto the bill rankled House Democrats into opposing the measure, a number of less-debated changes displeased the school administrators who initially helped to shape the bill.

Chris Pfister, superintendent of the Waynesfield-Goshen Local School District, said he counts a floor amendment by Rep. Jeff Rezabek (R-Clayton) among the negative last-minute changes to the bill. The amendment, which was accepted by a vote of 62-28, strips language that would have prevented excused absences from being included in the state's calculation for what makes a student "excessively absent."

Under existing law, a student is "excessively absent" when he or she misses 38 or more hours in a month or 65 or more hours in a year, whether the absences are excused or not. When a student reaches either of those thresholds, the district must send a notification to the student's parents.

Mr. Pfister, who formed a steering committee of superintendents on the legislation at the request of sponsor Sen. Matt Huffman (R-Lima), said the existing law does not allow school officials to use their discretion. He said local school districts should not be penalized for absences by students who are seriously ill or keeping up with their work while dealing with difficult or unusual family situations.

"All we (requested was), just don't count valid reasons against kids, parents and school districts," he said, adding that 50% of his district's students who are considered excessively absent are on the honor roll.

Rep. Rezabek, in describing the amendment last week on the House floor, said the existing provision of state law is simply about notifying parents about their students' absences and collecting related data from school districts.

"We're trying to catch students who, whether you're excused or unexcused, you're not there," he said. "You're missing the time to learn."

Rep. Rezabek said a number of school districts attempted to "aggravate parents and rally the public" against the provision of a measure (HB410), which he sponsored in the 131st General Assembly. He said districts wrote unnecessarily "nasty letters" to parents of students who met the excessively absent threshold in the hopes of swaying the popular opinion of the law.

Rep. Rezabek said in an interview Thursday that if the change had gone through, "bad actors" among school districts simply could have excused any absence that would have led to additional intervention on the district's part. He said a small number of districts have been "purposefully creating (their) own controversy" about the letters to make the entirety of the law look bad.

"We just want to make sure the parents are notified," he said of the letters, adding that he "absolutely" would be open to improvements to the measure suggested by school districts.

Gov. John Kasich earlier this week appointed Rep. Rezabek as a juvenile court judge in Montgomery County. He is expected to resign effective July 11. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 2, 2018)

Among several amendments adopted in the House Education and Career Readiness Committee was one that stripped another suggestion by local school officials from SB 216.

The version of the legislation adopted by the Senate would have required students not receiving free or reduced price lunches to pay for half of their textbook costs for College Credit Plus courses they take at community colleges. By the time the measure passed the House last week, an amendment offered by Rep. Dan Ramos (D-Lorain) had removed that language from the bill.

Mr. Pfister said local school officials pushed for the change because students currently have no incentive to buy used or discounted textbooks, as local school districts are required to pick up costs related to the program.

"They can walk into the bookstore and buy a \$300 book and they don't care because it costs them absolutely nothing," he said.

Although he said many districts officials thought it was fair for students to have some skin in the game, Mr. Pfister said he also understood lawmakers' concerns that adding a cost for students to the program could prevent them from participating.

"We value College Credit Plus," he said. "I want as many of my students to get as many credits as they can."

A provision of the law allowing students to administer third-grade state achievement tests on paper instead of online counts as a win for local school administrators, Mr. Pfister said.

The superintendent said testing third-grade students on computers can be "developmentally inappropriate" and can lead to students being held back because they have not yet mastered computer skills.

"Do we want to test reading and writing or the manipulation of this technology?" he said.

Mr. Pfister said he would have liked to have seen the legislature go further in reducing restrictions that prevent districts from using teachers outside of their licensed grade bands. He said such restrictions can keep districts from putting "the best person in front of kids," but efforts to loosen them were watered down as the legislation moved forward.

Although he expressed disappointment with several changes to the bill during the legislative process, Mr. Pfister said he does view the measure as a good initial step on multiple fronts.

"Overall, everything that's in there is helpful," he said.

Kidney Dialysis, Drug Penalties Amendment Campaigns Submit Petitions To Qualify For November Ballot

A pair of campaigns backing constitutional amendments submitted petitions this week to qualify for the November ballot, with one reporting more than twice as many signatures as required.

Supporters of the Neighborhood Safety, Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation amendment reported submitting 730,031, according to the secretary of state's office. They need 305,591 of those signatures to be certified as valid in order to make the ballot.

Proponents of the other ballot issue, the Kidney Dialysis Patient Protection Amendment, submitted 472,308 signatures, according to the secretary of state's office.

County boards of elections will determine how many of the signatures are valid by July 19, and the secretary of state's office has until July 24 to certify whether the proposals qualify for the ballot, according to the state.

Backers of the kidney dialysis issue, which is being supported by the SEIU, said the effort is designed to improve patient care at dialysis clinics. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 3, 2018)

"When talking with Ohio voters, they shared so many stories of loved ones with kidney failure being overlooked by the healthcare system," Dr. Ean Bett, a physician who supports the initiative, said in a statement. "The goal of this initiative is to protect those

patients - not the profits of dialysis corporations - and that's why voters were so enthusiastic about getting this on the November ballot."

The Ohio Renal Association, meanwhile, blasted the proposal as "deceptive and unnecessary."

"This ballot issue leaves me dumbfounded and incredulous," nephrologist Dr. Chris Saunders said in a statement, "The sponsors of this amendment demonstrated an obvious lack of understanding of the needs of dialysis patients and the comprehensive set of medical protocols and regulations that already govern the delivery of dialysis in Ohio."

An estimated 18,000 Ohioans suffering from end-stage renal disease receive dialysis treatments in clinics three times a week, with each visiting taking three to four hours, the Renal Association said in a release.

The association said nine out of ten patients receive coverage from Medicare, Medicaid or other government programs. They said the proposal would require dialysis providers to issue rebates to private insurers if their revenue exceeds certain limits, but it does not require those insurers to pass savings on to patients.

"This out-of-state special interest group is proposing a constitutional amendment to lock in place an unnecessary and flawed set of regulations that will actually harm the very patients the paid petitioners say they want to protect," nephrologist Dr. Henry Wehrum said.

The "Neighborhood Safety, Drug Treatment and Rehabilitation" amendment would make significant changes to how many drug crimes are handled in the state. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 2, 2018)

It would require all fourth- and fifth-degree felony offenses for obtaining, possessing or using drugs or drug paraphernalia to be reclassified as no higher than first-degree misdemeanors.

The issue is expected to face opposition from the state's judges, with the executive director of the Ohio Judicial Conference saying the issue is one that should be handled in legislation, not in the constitution.

Siting Board Staff Issues Recommended Safety, Environmental Conditions For Proposed Off-Shore Turbines

Staff of the Ohio Power Siting Board has submitted their recommendations for a slew of conditions they believe should be placed on a proposed off-shore wind farm in Lake Erie.

The 59-page report finalized this week follows months of investigation into the proposed Project Icebreaker - a 20 megawatt, six-turbine windfarm eyed for 10 miles off Cleveland's coast. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, March 28, 2018)

The report generally recommends state regulators agree with staff that the Lake Erie Energy Development Corp. has demonstrated adequate need for the project and met other steps required before final board approval.

In doing so, the report suggests 34 conditions be placed upon the project. The conditions themselves vary by subject area, encompassing topics including: ecology; safety; aviation; and air, water and solid waste. (Docket)

Among proposed safety requirements are that LEEDCo: complies with turbine manufacturers' most recent safety recommendations; obtains all relevant construction and transportation permits; enters into a road use agreement with appropriate parties prior to construction and subject to staff review; and mitigate any observed impacts to communication systems including maritime radio within seven days.

The stipulations also address potential impacts on bats and other aviatory wildlife - a point of contention between project backers and wildlife groups who have previously sued in an effort to halt the project. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, November 9, 2017)

The conditions would call for the project to stick to an avian and bat memorandum of understanding and require LEEDCo to submit both a fisheries and aquatic resources construction monitoring plan and an avian and bat impact mitigation plan at least 60 days prior to construction.

LEEDCo would be required to contact the Ohio Department of Natural Resources, staff and the U.S. Fish and Wildlife Service within 24 hours should it encounter a state or federally endangered species during construction or operation of the turbines. And staff is also seeking to require the corporation adopt a radar monitoring program to continually assess aviation activity.

A public hearing on the project is scheduled for July 19 in Cleveland even as written public comment from stakeholder groups and private citizens continues pouring in to the board on both sides of the issue.

Most recently, the Environmental Defense Fund urged support for the project, noting that LEEDCo had initially planned for project approval by February 2017. Since then, backers have submitted "an overwhelming amount of documentation to support is application" which EDF argues "easily meets or exceeds" the board's approval criteria.

"These projects will play a key role in reducing U.S. greenhouse gas emissions," EDF Midwest Policy Director Dick Munson wrote. "These projects take on greater importance now that the federal government may be about to misuse the Defense Production Act to provide illegal, uneconomic subsidies for old coal and gas plants."

He was referring to ongoing debate among the Trump Administration, which is considering using the law to offer new emergency financial supports to unprofitable plants. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, June 1, 2018)

Democrats Argue DeWine's ECOT Action 'Too Little, Too Late'

While Attorney General Mike DeWine contends jurisdictional and procedural hurdles have kept him from playing a leading role in the drama surrounding the now-shuttered Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow, Democratic critics Thursday claimed he could have found a way to get involved earlier.

The criticisms followed a Tuesday court filing from the AG's office, which reiterated its interest in prosecuting financial claims ECOT has against third parties, including school founder Bill Lager. The state could recover public money by pursuing civil claims of breach of fiduciary duty and violation of the state's Corrupt Practices Act and its prohibition on public officials having interests in public contracts against Mr. Lager, according to the filing. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, July 3, 2018)

Tax records show ECOT, which closed its doors in January, transferred at least \$200 million to two other firms controlled by Mr. Lager, Altair Learning Management and IQ Innovations, according to the AG's filing.

Democratic Party Chairman David Pepper in a conference call Thursday said the Republican gubernatorial candidate's move to pursue claims against Mr. Lager is "too little, too late."

"Mike DeWine should have acted ... long before ECOT became a clear political liability," he said.

Dan Tierney, spokesman for the attorney general, said the office's response to the ECOT matter has been shaped by jurisdictional and procedural constraints.

"Under Ohio law, the attorney general does not have original jurisdiction in most criminal matters," he said, citing election fraud, workers' compensation fraud and certain organized crime cases involving drug and human trafficking among the areas in which the office does have jurisdiction.

County prosecutor's offices, he said, retain jurisdiction in the "vast majority" of criminal cases.

Earlier this year, State Auditor Dave Yost referred his office's audit of ECOT for potential criminal prosecution to the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office and the U.S. Attorney's Office after determining school officials submitted inaccurate data to the Department of Education. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 10, 2018)

Mr. Pepper said he thinks the jurisdictional concerns are "just an excuse." He said the attorney general's filing from earlier in the week "shows the entire state he could have gotten involved years ago."

"That particular set of facts has been painfully clear for years," he said of the ties among companies controlled by Mr. Lager.

Mr. Tierney said it's important to note the legal effort under discussion, which ECOT sponsor the Educational Service Center of Lake Erie West launched to get the court to appoint a receiver to manage and wind down operations at the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow, began in January. The AG's office wants to pursue financial claims the shuttered school has against third parties in order to recoup taxpayer money without enlisting an outside firm that would take its own cut, he said.

"Part of the issue here is we have strong claims now that ECOT has closed that would not have been ripe prior to ECOT's closure," he said.

Mr. Tierney added AG DeWine is still waiting on approval from a Franklin County Common Pleas Court judge to move forward with potential collection actions.

"We're trying to start these proceedings as soon as we can," he said.

Rep. Tavia Galonski (D-Akron), who joined Mr. Pepper on the conference call, said she questions whether the AG could have used his authority to investigate the misuse of public funds to play a larger role in the matter. She added that she and Rep. Teresa Fedor (D-Toledo) in May requested the appointment of a special prosecutor to investigate ECOT after the audit's release.

Mr. Tierney said the AG's office does not have the authority to appoint a special prosecutor in the case without a request from the Franklin County Prosecutor's Office, which has original jurisdiction.

High Court Accepts Jurisdiction In Open Meetings Act Case

The Ohio Supreme Court has agreed to take up a case that could determine if public bodies violate the Open Meetings Act by utilizing secret ballots.

The court has accepted the appeal of Patricia Meade, who alleged the Village of Bratenahl violated the law in 2015 when its council utilized a secret ballot to elect a president pro tempore.

The election required three rounds of voting, and the ballots were reviewed only by the village's law director, according to Ms. Meade, who is the publisher of a community news publication. (Docket)

In her memorandum in support of jurisdiction, Ms. Meade cites an advisory opinion from the attorney general's office and a 2016 Ohio Supreme Court ruling in which it found a

private and prearranged discussion of public business by a majority of a public body through email violates the state's open meeting laws. (See Gongwer Ohio Report, May 3, 2016)

"The OMA expressly declares that it is to be liberally construed in openness so as to require public officials to take official action and conduct all deliberations upon official business only in open meetings. In so doing, this court must conclude and declare that secret-ballot voting violates the OMA," she wrote.

Both the trial court and the Eight District Court of Appeals sided with the village in the case.

Ms. Meade said the appellate court ruling "created a standard that does not advance the purposes and goals of the OMA, but directly undermines them."

The Ohio Coalition for Open Government struck a similar tone in its amicus brief supporting jurisdiction in the case.

"If permitted to stand, the decision below will allow local governments to effectively operate in secret, impairing the public's ability to hold their representatives accountable," the group wrote. "Public knowledge of government operations is vital to the legitimacy of local governments in Ohio."

The village, however, said there is no statute or case law that spells out how a vote for president pro tempore should be conducted.

"In fact, (the law) authorizes a legislative authority of a municipal corporation to determine its own rules and in this matter, village council followed its own past practice of using a contemporaneous vote by ballot to elect president pro tempore to a one-year term," the village wrote in opposing jurisdiction in the case.

The village also contends that the secret ballots were not designed to hide public business.

"Contrary to appellant's argument, the purpose of the handwritten ballot was not (to) conceal, but rather, to vote contemporaneously," it wrote. "A contemporaneous vote by handwritten ballot assures comradeship and precludes the potential public pressure resulting from hearing the other councilmember's votes."

O'Connor's Latest Ad Features Kasich Voter; Becker Blasts U.S. Supreme Court; LPO Seeks Minor Party Status...

Democrat Danny O'Connor's latest ad in his congressional bid seeks to bolster his standing with Republican voters who still back Gov. John Kasich.

In the ad, "Shannon," a Delaware woman lays out her rationale for voting for the Franklin County recorder.

"I voted for John Kasich the last three times. I voted for Trump because I didn't like the way things were going in Washington, and now I'm supporting Danny O'Connor," Shannon Ward says in the spot. "John Kasich and Danny O'Connor both don't worry about the labels of Democrat or Republican; they're going to get things done either way."

Janus Decision: Rep. John Becker (R-Union Twp.), a proponent of right-to-work laws, praised the U.S. Supreme Court's recent decision in *Janus* in which it found that non-union workers cannot be forced to pay fees to public sector unions.

However, he also blasted the court for legislating from the bench.

"The good news is that we now have public sector right-to-work across the United States. The bad news is that the little kings in black robes continue to overstep their constitutional authority by forcing their opinions down the throats of the rest of us," he said in a statement.

"The U.S. Constitution does not give the Supreme Court of the United States the authority to rule over the entire nation. Rather, they are only superior to the lower courts. Nor does the U.S. Constitution grant the Supreme Court veto power over legislation, also known as judicial review. These are powers that the justices of the court have granted to themselves."

Minor Party: The Libertarian Party of Ohio is seeking to regain its minor party status.

The group recently submitted 102,762 signatures to Secretary of State Jon Husted to do just that. A total of 54,964 valid petition signatures are needed to achieve the designation.

The party plans to announce a slate of 2018 candidates on July 14.

GM Investment: Mahoning Valley lawmakers are urging General Motors to reinvest in the area.

The call comes after the company announced that it would lay off second shift employees at its Lordstown plant.

In a letter to CEO Mary Barra, the lawmakers urge her to reconsider the decision.

"The Valley wants to continue to support GM. As this great American company evolves to meet the demands of the future, the workers at Lordstown want to evolve with the company they have devoted themselves to," they wrote. "There is a will to double down and train the current workforce for the jobs of tomorrow. Our workers and our communities want to continue to be a partner in a mutually beneficial relationship with GM."

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"The Cleveland Harbor project is vital to all of Ohio and we must ensure that the dredged material is not inappropriately disposed of by dumping it in Lake Erie without approval by the Ohio EPA," Sen. Portman said. "I will continue (to) use every tool available to make sure both the City of Cleveland's water supply and Lake Erie's ecosystem is protected."

Added Sen. Brown: "Lake Erie is a source of pride for Ohio - it's important for local businesses, local jobs, and the local ecosystem. This language will help us keep Lake Erie clean, keep the channel open for business, and ensure the Lake remains a viable resource for generations to come."

Annual Short-Term Technical Certificates Top 13K; Facilities Construction Commission To Host Tech Webinar; Work Begins on OSU's Franklin County Extension Office

The Department of Higher Education announced 13,403 students earned short-term technical certificates from postsecondary education entities in the state in fiscal year 2017.

The state's community colleges and universities awarded 6,307 of the certificates during the year, while technical centers awarded the remaining 7,096, according to data from the ODHE.

Students earn the credentials by completing study programs of less than 30 credit hours or 900 clock hours in preparation for licensure and careers in fields such as nursing, firefighting and welding.

Tech: The Facilities Construction Commission will conduct a webinar for school administrators involved in building or renovation projects next week.

The presentation, which is titled "Everything You Need to Know About Tech in 30 Minutes," is set for 10-11 a.m. July 11.

Topics set for discussion during the presentation include augmented and virtual-reality, flat panels and projectors and strategies for coordinating maintenance and security ahead of a building's opening day.

Prospective participants can register for the webinar online.

The commission also is currently accepting applications for the second round of its Lead Plumbing Fixture Replacement Assistance Grant Program.

Officials at schools built before 1990 can apply for up to \$15,000 through the program to replace drinking fountains, piping and other fixtures. Schools must seek funding through the program by the July 31 application deadline.

More information about the program can be found on the commission's website.

Extension: Ohio State University has broken ground on a 10,500-square-foot facility on the site of its Waterman Agricultural and Natural Resources Laboratory.

Kunz-Brundige Franklin County Extension Office - the first of three new buildings planned on the site - is being funded through an \$11 million donation from Patricia Brundige that also supports two Franklin County 4H educator positions.

"We envision the Kunz-Brundige Franklin County Extension Office as a hub for teaching, research and community engagement around food, health, agricultural production and sustainability," Cathann Kress, OSU's vice president for agricultural administration, said in a statement. "Thanks to the generosity of Pat Brundige, a longtime volunteer and advocate for OSU Extension, this facility will increase our engagement with the Franklin County community through educational programs and events for youth and adults."

OSU's Franklin County extension currently offers educational programs to thousands of children and adults every year, according to a news release from OSU.

E-schools: An online charter school advocacy group has requested Gov. John Kasich sign legislation containing conditional protections for schools that took in students from the Electronic Classroom of Tomorrow after it closed in January.

The Ohio eSchool Families and Friends Coalition on Thursday released a letter written by its president, Sara Donlon, urging the governor to refrain from vetoing the measure (SB 216), which the House passed last week.

"There's important language protecting public charter schools from being put at risk of closure, unfairly, simply for doing the right thing and accepting any and all ECOT students who needed a safe harbor," she wrote. "As you know, ECOT closed on a Friday and those families needed a place to go to ensure that their children's education was not interrupted. Our schools took them in under trying circumstances."

An amendment to the measure, which makes dozens of changes to the state's K-12 education system, creates a safe harbor from certain consequences, including closure, for schools that saw their enrollment grow by 10% from taking in ECOT students. The Senate later adopted amendments to another piece of legislation (HB 872) that bumped up the threshold to 20% and clarified that schools already set for closure without taking data from former ECOT students into account would not be protected by the safe harbor.

Supplemental Agency Calendar Wednesday, July 18

Statewide Independent Living Council, Embassy Suites Columbus Airport, 2886 Airport Dr., Columbus, 10 a.m. (Committee meetings)

Thursday, July 19

Statewide Independent Living Council, Embassy Suites Columbus Airport, 2886 Airport Dr., Columbus, 1 p.m.

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Senate Activity for Thursday, July 5, 2018

SB 315

POLICE REPORTS (Yuko, K.) To prohibit law enforcement agencies from including identifying information of sexual assault victims in police reports posted online. Am. 149.436

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Daily Activity Planner for Friday, July 6

Legislative Committees

No legislative committees scheduled.

Agency Calendar

No agency meetings scheduled.

Event Planner

No events scheduled.

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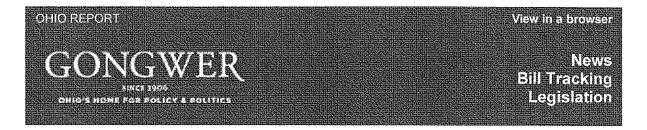
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To: DL_Gongwer

Subject: Ohio Report, Tuesday, July 10, 2018

Attachments: Jul10.htm; Jul10Senate.htm; 180710dayplan.htm



OHIO REPORT TUESDAY, JULY 10

Lending Bill Passes Divided Senate, Awaits Final Action By House

Public Notice Changes Among Other Measures To Pass Senate

Ed Board Boosts Third-Grade Reading Benchmark

Gubernatorial Hopefuls Address Infrastructure, Transportation Plans

Panel Suggests Revisions To State Report Cards

High Court: Class Action BWC Suit Seeks Legal Relief, Filed In Wrong Court

Kavanaugh Nomination Leads To Strong Reaction On Both Sides

Exelon Moves To Purchase FirstEnergy Solutions

Renacci Pledges To Serve Two Terms; Dialysis Issue Gets Formal Opposition; Group Looks To Make It Easier To Opt-Out Of Unions...

Governor's Appointments

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Supplemental Event Planner

Senate Committee Hearings

Finance

ACTIVITY REPORTS

Senate

CALENDARS

Day Planner

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